

MOST UP-TO-DATE CALENDAR IN NEW ENGLAND!

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Anti-NAMBLA Amendments Complicate Bill

House Approves Massachusetts Rights Bill

By Larry Goldsmith

BOSTON — The Massachusetts House of Representatives gave its final approval to a lesbian and gay rights bill on September 26, but not without first adding a number of controversial and possibly unconstitutional amendments excluding certain forms of discrimination from the scope of the legislation.

The bill, which passed in the House on a narrow 75 to 71 rollcall vote, would empower the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (MCAD) to investigate claims of discrimination based on sexual preference in public and private housing, employment and services.

But an amendment, attached to the bill by Rep. Michael Flaherty (D-So. Boston) when it was first considered last June (see *GCN*, Vol. 10, No. 47), warns that "nothing in this act shall be construed to apply to members of the National Association of Man Boy Love relationships [sic] or any person whose sexual preference applies to minor children."

Flaherty also attached an amendment to the bill which would exempt owner-occupied

two- and three-family dwellings from the law. Two-family owner-occupied dwellings are already exempt from non-discrimination laws.

An amendment offered by Rep. Roger Goyette (D-New Bedford) omits protection from employment discrimination for any person "who engages in illicit sexual activity with a minor person of the same sex under the age of eighteen years" and specifically exempts protection for "any public employee, customarily involved with and employed in a capacity dealing with minor children, including but not limited to teachers, counsellors, social workers, health and attendant care workers who engage in illicit sexual relations with a minor of the same sex under the age of eighteen years."

The current age-of-consent in Massachusetts is 16 years.

Rep. William Galvin (D-Brighton) offered a similarly-intentioned amendment which exempted protections for "an employee who has been convicted of a crime involving physical or sexual abuse of a minor child if said occupation requires the employee to

be *in loco parentis* to minor children." Galvin additionally proposed that "nothing contained in this subsection shall make it unlawful for an owner, lessee, sublessee or managing agent to evict any tenant because of criminal activities of any kind on the premises."

"We have a terribly big loophole [through] which our minors, our children, are completely unprotected from seduction," argued Goyette in proposing his amendment. But several of the bill's co-sponsors and supporters criticized Goyette's amendment for the vagueness of the term "illicit sexual activity."

Rep. Thomas Valley (D-Back Bay), principal co-sponsor of the bill, took the House floor to oppose the Goyette amendment, but said he was in favor of the amendments offered by Galvin.

Speaking for his own amendments, Galvin called upon the legislature "to make it abundantly clear that no protection is being offered regarding conduct in employment where children are involved. . . . I think we owe it to the children of the Commonwealth that we not leave them out of the process."

After nearly four hours of debate in which Reps. Flaherty and Royall Switzer (R-Wellesley) used every available parliamentary procedure to delay the vote, the bill came up for final consideration, called "engrossment," and passed by a four-vote margin. The House

then recessed for the day.

The next day, however, Flaherty exercised his option to move for reconsideration of the vote. (Under the rules of the legislature, a member may make such a motion on any vote; if the motion passes, it does not reverse the original vote, but allows for the vote to be taken again.) Flaherty originally asked for the reconsideration to be scheduled for October 11, but House Speaker Thomas McGee (D-Lynn) noted that the Boston preliminary election falls on that date and changed the motion to call for reconsideration on October 12. The motion failed, however, on an 83 to 64 vote.

Speaker McGee, who by tradition seldom votes but has in the past been generally supportive of the legislation, cast votes against the bill and in favor of amendments and reconsideration motions at every step along the way. One legislator told *GCN* that McGee has been visibly disturbed lately by investigative reports in the *Boston Globe* charging the legislature with abuses of power, privilege and taxpayers' money. The legislator, who voted for the bill, said the Speaker may have reversed his stand in an attempt to maintain a "clean" public image.

The bill now goes to the Senate for approval. Should the Senate amend the House version in any way, the House would have to approve the new amendments. A conference committee could be formed to reconcile the dif-

ferences. The bill would then go to Governor Michael Dukakis, who has said he would sign it.

Lobbyists for the bill have said they expect the constitutionality of the amendments to be more easily resolved in court than it might be in the legislature. Several lesbian and gay attorneys in Boston, however, expressed ambivalence about that strategy.

"I think it's a risk," said Katherine Triantafillou, attorney for Christine Madsen, the veteran Christian Science *Monitor* reporter who lost her job in March 1982 when the *Monitor* discovered she was a lesbian. "My experience in doing legislation is that you don't pass an unconstitutional piece of legislation in the hope it will be declared unconstitutional in the courts. You pass what you want."

"I don't think there's any compromise on human rights," Triantafillou added. "I think that's a very defensive posture to have to take. . . . You either have to recognize gay civil rights or not."

Triantafillou criticized the bill for specifically addressing the subject of non-consensual sex with minors, charging that "the presumption is that that is what the conduct [of lesbians and gay men] is going to include."

"It's going to make it harder with the MCAD. . . to complicate this legislation with a whole bunch of amendments," commented attorney Cindy Rizzo. "It's going to be a real horror show. If you're 18

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1000 Take Back New York Night

By Sarah Schulman

NEW YORK — Over 1000 enthusiastic women and a few men marched against violence against women in New York City on Saturday, Sept. 24. The mostly white and young crowd assembled in front of Grand Central Station, marched down Second Avenue to a rally in Washington Square Park. The march was the result of the year-long preparations by the Take Back the Night Coalition.

Many women interviewed learned of the march through notices posted in their neighborhoods or community newspapers, indicating a good response to the coalition's efforts to involve women unaffiliated with the organized women's movement.

Gladys Cruz read about the march in *The Brooklyn Phoenix* and came wearing a picture of her daughter, Miriam Valentine, who at age twenty was murdered by a man. Cruz said that the First Precinct Police were extremely uncooperative and so she is publicizing the case through grass roots activities.

The coalition prepared signs for women to carry, addressing a wide range of progressive issues from abortion to imperialism to gay liberation to nuclear war. There were even a few old-fashioned "Amazon Warriors" thrown in for good measure. Yet, the demonstrators themselves didn't reflect the diversity of issues on placards they carried through the march.

Ellen Turner, one of the organizers of the original speak-out against rape in New York City in 1971, commented on the absence of gay men: "We support gay men with AIDS but they don't come out for women's health issues. Women have been killed every day for thousands of years and gay men who have money and power haven't contributed a penny.

What are lesbians getting back from our "homosexual unified movement" for our support for AIDS? I don't want to be a separatist, but how can you help it?"

Black lesbian feminist writer and activist Beverly Smith spoke at the rally following the march. She commented on the lack of women of color, stating that once she saw the march, her prepared speech welcoming a "diverse" group became more visionary than real.

Smith noted that in her hometown of Cambridge, Mass., there has not been a Take Back the Night March for two years because of the inability of white and black women to overcome racial and political differences. She expressed hope that these activities would soon resume because "we have the power and the responsibility to intervene along the continuum of violence."

Although the march was in many ways successful, it had an air of orchestrated emotional response. TBTN originally marched through Central Park until the city refused to issue the coalition a permit. The organizers have since decided to cooperate with city authorities, including accepting a police escort. The result is an orderly march leading to an orderly demonstration in which a great deal of the anger and spontaneity of earlier marches is missing.

New York Women Against Rape (NYWAR), a service organization and sponsor of TBTN, has recently stepped up their efforts to revamp the anti-violence movement into a more activist, militant presence. Yet, coordinator Robin Baslow expressed disappointment with Saturday's march. "It's small, largely white and pretty much the same groups that endorsed and worked on it," Baslow said.

National AIDS Vigil: Coming at a Low Time?

By Janice Irvine

WASHINGTON — "Anyone who comes to Washington will leave with a stronger sense of morale. It comes at somewhat of a low time, but at somewhat of a good time in terms of energizing us," said Clint Hockenberry of the National AIDS Vigil Commission. Hockenberry was responding to recent comments by some AIDS activists that the Oct. 8 vigil is badly timed and there is a general lack of enthusiasm for the event.

In a recent issue of the Washington *Blade*, Rodger McFarlane, executive director of the Gay Men's Health Crisis, Inc. (GMHC) in New York noted, "Nobody out-and-out disagrees with the vigil, but there's no overwhelming support either."

Similarly, Ron Vachon, of the National Gay Health Education Foundation, and one of the commissioners of the vigil told *GCN*, "Six months or a year ago the momentum was there. . . . Now there's a lack of energy. People are worn out. It's the end of the summer, people are laid back, and also the federal government sounds like it's responding finally."

Although the vigil organizers have revised their expected turnout figures from 100,000 to 10,000, Hockenberry said that recently "things have picked up tremendously." Contingents are expected from Florida, Kentucky and Omaha, and support vigils have been organized in 20 cities, including one in Scotland.

While Hockenberry concedes to some apathy about the vigil, he believes it reflects part of a broader response to AIDS in general. "There's a lot of denial. . . . It's occurring nationally. People have been AIDS-ed out. They feel hesitant about giving money and don't want to talk about it."

Hockenberry attributed this reaction to media saturation and partly to the high number of AIDS hospitalizations. "Defense mechanisms are leading to defensiveness," he said. "Groups who are not spending 24-hours-a-day on AIDS are enthusiastic. Others who are up to their elbows in AIDS are burned out."

In describing the low morale of his staff at GMHC, McFarlane told *GCN* that he thinks New York is suffering from "community fatigue." He added, "As a community, I feel like we're growing up really fast. Part of that maturity is a really hard edge when you feel 'Holy shit, this is gonna go on forever.' We either need a revival or we'll just keep on plugging along like this." He added that if there were a large turnout at the vigil, it might be energizing.

Hockenberry and Vachon are not focusing on numbers, however, and believe that a major goal of the vigil is its potential for coalition-building. The Oct. 8 vigil has 40 commissioners who are sponsors, including Sen. Ted Kennedy, Fritz Longchamps of the Haitian Refugee Project, Sam Myers of the

United Auto Workers Local 259, and Rae Gummel of Children's Rights, Inc.

Vachon said, "I've always viewed [the vigil] as a way of involving people who have not yet been involved. . . and of pulling individuals and organizations into this fight." Hockenberry feels that the broad-based group of march supporters will comprise a constituency to draw on in the future in order to respond nationally to federal alerts.

Although the vigil was conceived as a national effort, however, its major support has been on the East Coast, and the largest turnouts are expected from cities such as New York, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Atlanta and Richmond. Sandra Lipke, of the newly-formed Statewide Committee on AIDS based in Appleton, Wisconsin, told *GCN* that she was unaware of the vigil. Since organizing in July, in response to what is suspected to be Wisconsin's first AIDS fatality, the Committee has focused on education and training. They've established an AIDS hotline, currently financed by some of its members' rent money.

Lipke said, "We were caught off guard. To us, it was like it's on the East Coast or it's on the West Coast. It's not in Wisconsin. We didn't think of it, or didn't want to think of it."

In Boston, there has been little

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News Notes

quote of the week

"In the [Mr. Gay Minnesota] contest, the three non-metro gays were the most politically involved in the gay/lesbian community. It's partly by necessity. The comfort level in the metro area is different. There are more diverse activities — sports, music, the bars. In a rural area, social and political activities are all connected. Being gay is being political. You're constantly aware of it. You can't ghettoize yourself."

— Jim Chalgren, Mr. Gay Minnesota, on small town gay life. Chalgren is a native-born resident of Mankato, Minn. (population 28,651).

nuevo ambiente

MEXICO CITY — Members of Grupo Lambda seek subscribers outside Mexico for their publication, *Nuevo Ambiente*. Yearly subs are \$8.00 for seven issues. Inquiries and sub orders may be sent to: *Nuevo Ambiente*, Grupo Lambda, Apartado Postal 73-130, Mexico 12, D.F. MEXICO.

umass sexual harassment case goes on trial

BOSTON — The Alliance Against Sexual Coercion and Women Against Sexual Harassment (AASC/WASH) has announced an October 24 trial date for the sexual harassment case at University of Massachusetts/Boston. Freeda Klein, case coordinator, stated in a letter, "Winning this case is an important step for all women — it will protect our rights to study and work in environments free from sexual harassment."

The case began four years ago when eight women student workers submitted letters of complaint to the UMass administration charging the director of the Health Education Center with sexual harassment. UMass did not investigate the charges and, instead, fired the students' woman supervisor who had assisted them and offered support in pursuing their complaints through university channels.

In addition to ignoring the charges made by the women students, the University embarked on a campaign of intimidation and retaliation against the students and their supervisor. In 1981, the women filed a suit against UMass which could establish legal precedent regarding the responsibility of an employer toward employees subjected to on-the-job sexual harassment.

Excluding lawyers' fees, Klein estimates the costs of the trial will be about \$18,000. The eight women who filed the suit have exhausted their personal resources. Several attorneys have been working on the case without pay. To make a donation or to get more information about the case, write AASC/WASH, P.O. Box 1, Cambridge, MA 02139.

appreciating good pornography on capitol hill

WASHINGTON — The Baltimore *Sun* reports that President Reagan, Vice President Bush, the nine Supreme Court Justices and all 535 members of Congress have been given free subscriptions to Larry Flynt's *Hustler* magazine, and of some the esteemed are not happy about it.

In a letter enclosed with the first copy, Flynt said his magazine would help members of Congress "stay well-informed on all social issues and trends."

He added: "I am sure that your constituents, who appreciate good pornography, will be happy to know that you subscribe to their favorite magazine."

Two Congressmen returned their copies Flynt and demanded they be removed from the "smut mailing list." Rep. Don Sundquist (R-Tenn.) said on the floor of the House, "It is not appreciated by me, and I'm sure it will not be received well by any other member of Congress."

A White House spokesman said Reagan's copy "will probably end up in the trash can."

dignity gets mixed reception in seattle

SEATTLE — About 700 gay and lesbian Catholics convened for the sixth biennial international convention of Dignity on Labor Day weekend, according to the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Archbishop Raymond G. Hunthausen of Seattle welcomed the conventioners to his city and authorized use of St. James Cathedral for a Saturday night service. Ironically, Hunthausen's remarks were delivered via videotape when he was summoned to Rome to hear the pope's latest condemnations of homosexuality, ordination of women and birth control.

About 100 people staged a counterdemonstration outside the Cathedral during Dignity's mass, while on the inside over 1000 gay Catholics and their supporters prayed for the protestors' enlightenment.

The convention took a supportive stance toward the San Francisco task force report "Homosexuality and Social Justice." Dignity's Task Force on Sexual Ethics will develop a report based on "Fifteen Principles for a Renewed Sexual Theology," to be presented to the 1989 convention. The San Francisco group's report was rejected by the San Francisco archdiocese this past summer. The archdiocese ordered its own report in response, calling for gay celibacy.

In other business, the convention also formed a committee to increase the effectiveness of the organization's ministry to racial minorities. Dignity/Third World is the project of Clyde Sams of Philadelphia, who will formulate a plan to present to the 1985 convention in New York.

new members elected to ngtf board

NEW YORK — Among the six new members recently elected to the Board of Directors of the National Gay Task Force is GCN's own Cindy Rizzo. Rizzo is a former board member at GCN and currently serves the paper as its general counsel. She is a practicing attorney at the firm of Ward, Rizzo and Lund.

Other persons elected were: Peter Fowler of San Francisco; Carol Lease and Bill Olson, both of Denver; Barbara Lightner, Madison, Wis.; and Paul Siegel of Overland Park, Kansas. Alexa Freeman of Washington D.C., an appointee, was elected to a full term.

The new board will meet on October 28-30 to elect officers and an executive committee.

no aids cases associated with hep b vaccine

ATLANTA — The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the developer of the hepatitis B vaccine have released statistics on illnesses developing after administration of the vaccine. As of March 1, 1983, of 200,000 people vaccinated, 118 persons became ill after receiving heptavax-B. Six of the 118 persons developed serious illnesses, but there have been no cases of AIDS among all the people receiving the vaccine since 1982. The CDC does not believe there are any unusual risks associated with hepatitis B vaccinations.

hot bytes

LOS ANGELES — The *NOGLS Newsline*, newsletter of the National Organization of Gay/Lesbian Scientists reports a new kink in connections between gay folks. For those who prefer floppy disks to discos and printouts to personals, gay computerphiles log on and get off via two national computer systems.

The Source, near Washington, D.C. and CompuServe, Columbus, Ohio, both provide services to home computer users all over the country. Among the services offered is an electronic mail feature allowing immediate communications with other users of the systems.

The *Newsline* says, "Although the companies who operate these systems don't publically acknowledge the fact, there are significant numbers of gay users on each system."

"CB" Channel 33, on CompuServe, a feature which works something like CB radios, is generally used by gays. People making homophobic remarks are squelched and a system of passwords to facilitate private conversation is changed daily. Unfortunately, sexually suggestive messages are also squelched by CompuServe, so on-line titillation is minimal.

The Source offers only one-to-one communication, but persistent users can still meet large numbers of other gay users. *Newsline* reports about 200 out gays on CompuServe lines and about 250 on The Source lines.

For more information, contact the Gay Association of Technicians, Engineers and Scientists, P.O. Box 14138, Chicago, Ill. 60614.



BOSTON — Mel King (l) and Atlanta's Mayor Andrew Young meet the Boston press on Sept. 22 at Northeastern University. Young endorsed King in his campaign for mayor of Boston. Later in the day, both King and Young made appearances at the Human Rights Campaign Fund dinner at the Parker House. See related story on page 3.

This week's News Notes compiled by Sue Hyde.

Rights Bill

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and your lover is 17 and you get fired from your job, you'll be exempt from this bill."

"It puts us as gay activists in the role of having to challenge the best piece of legislation we've seen ever," Rizzo explained. "It's horrible to have this kind of victory and feel so disgusted about it."

"This thing's going to be in litigation forever," said attorney Richard Iandoli, who has represented several members of the North American Man/Boy Love Association (NAMBLA), the or-

ganization apparently referred to in Flaherty's amendment. "An attack on NAMBLA is an attack on a civil rights group and that's a violation of the First and Fifth Amendments."

Despite insistent attempts by local police and the FBI to portray NAMBLA as a "sex ring," the organization has steadfastly maintained that it is an educational and advocacy organization. Among the aims of NAMBLA is the repeal of all sexual age-of-consent laws.

NAMBLA has begun an appeal to the broader lesbian and gay community for help in challenging the amendments, and has asked for a meeting with Massachusetts

Gay Political Caucus co-chair Steve Tierney to discuss how the Caucus and NAMBLA can work together should the bill become law.

"We are definitely planning to meet with them and figure out a plan," Tierney acknowledged.

Vigil

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organizing for the vigil, according to Jim Lombardi, New England region assistant coordinator for the vigil. Although there have been meetings with members of local gay organizations to encourage attendance at the vigil, there are no

buses planned from Boston. Larry Kessler of the AIDS Action Committee said that although his group is attempting to organize carpools, he encourages anyone who wants to go to hop on the Amtrak.

The vigil events begin with a lobbying day on Friday, Oct. 7. Petitions supporting vigil objectives and a statement from the Haitian Coalition will be formally presented to members of the Senate and House Appropriations subcommittees which oversee federal AIDS funding.

On Saturday, Oct. 8, there will be slides and video programs about AIDS showing throughout the day, and a National AIDS

forum will be held in the afternoon. The march assembly begins at 5:00 at the Ellipse. The step-off is at dusk, and there will be a short rally after the march.

For information on carpooling from Boston, call the AIDS Action Line, (617) 536-7733. To contact the National Aids Vigil Commission, call (202) 436-8561.

— filed from Boston

Have a Question?
BOSTON LESBIAN AND GAY HOTLINE
6pm-Midnight, Mon-Fri
(617) 426-9371

Mayor White Honored with Human Rights Award

Boston Gays Raise Funds for 1984 Campaign

By Larry Goldsmith

BOSTON — We could not help but think of Rep. Walter Fauntroy's recent likening of gay rights to "penguin rights" as we approached the tuxedoed lesbians and gay men gathered for dinner at the Parker House Hotel on September 23. But the nattily-dressed dinner guests had paid \$100 apiece to help raise money for an organization that refers in name neither to birds nor homosexuals: the Human Rights Campaign Fund, political action committee for the Washington-based Gay Rights National Lobby.

Money raised during the evening (\$11,000, according to dinner organizer Steven Tierney) will be sent to the Fund in Washington for future doling out to Congressional candidates who are sympathetic to lesbian and gay rights. At least two likely recipients of future contributions, local incumbent Reps. Barney Frank and Gerry Studds, attended the dinner, as did numerous state and local elected officials and would-be elected officials with eyes cast

longingly on the upcoming October 11 Boston election.

We had just finished talking with mayoral candidate Larry DiCara and some of his supporters when Mel King, another mayoral candidate enjoying widespread support among lesbians and gay men, arrived in the reception room accompanied by Atlanta's Mayor Andrew Young and a sizable entourage. Young was in town for the day for a series of appearances on behalf of King's campaign, and he had held a press conference that afternoon to add his endorsement of King to that of Chicago's Mayor Harold Washington and a host of other black and progressive leaders. We couldn't help but seize the opportunity to ask Young why he had refused to sign a lesbian and gay pride proclamation passed by the Atlanta city council in 1982.

"I didn't sign it last year, but I did this year," Young noted. "I'm a defender of everybody's human rights in almost every circumstance, but I don't think govern-

ment has any business affirming anybody's sexuality in any way.... I never affirmed black pride and I think the affirmation of pride is more a declaration of insecurity that it is of pride."

"I'm going to have to break this up," said an aide, and Young was whisked away.

More words from more politicians followed, of course, after dinner. Dinner organizer Steven Tierney, who also heads the Massachusetts Gay Political Caucus, began the presentations with an award to outgoing Boston Mayor Kevin White.

"He was there before any other mayor," said Tierney. "He was there with more money and more resources and I think we all owe him a debt for that.... What Mayor Kevin White has done for us is to be willing to learn to be open to our concerns."

Tierney praised the mayor for signing an executive order barring discrimination in city government based on sexual preference, for hiring a full-time liaison to the lesbian and gay community, and for making the city's Board of Health and Hospitals responsive to the needs of lesbians and gay men.

Tierney himself was appointed to the Health and Hospitals Board by White in June, 1982. He and two others on that Board were re-

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Rep. Gerry Studds (l) and Human Rights Campaign Fund executive director Vic Basile.



Massachusetts Gay Political Caucus co-chair Steve Tierney (l) and Boston Mayor Kevin White (cl) huddle with an unidentified man and George Regan (r), White's press secretary, at the Human Rights Campaign Fund Dinner.

City Races Heat Up As Runoff Vote Nears

By Larry Goldsmith

BOSTON — With the preliminary municipal election here scheduled for October 11, candidates for mayor, city council and school committee are collecting their last-minute endorsements, buying advertising space and introducing some long-awaited fire into an otherwise lukewarm campaign season.

In the mayor's race, the release

of television- and newspaper-sponsored opinion polls showing three candidates in a close race for the two runoff spots has prompted changes in campaign strategy. Former school committee president David Finnegan, who enjoyed a comfortable lead in polls and media coverage throughout the earlier part of the campaign, has abandoned his frontrunner's strategy of confident complacency and begun a more aggressive campaign. Finnegan, whose own children attend private school, has attacked city councillor Ray Flynn as a "racist" and a "rabid anti-buser," and has sought to divert black support from former state representative Mel King by brandishing an endorsement from the Bay State *Banner*, a conservative black weekly.

Flynn, known for his strong anti-busing and anti-abortion stands, has continued his campaign as a "populist" candidate, stressing "economic discrimination" as the source of the city's ills. Although he opposed gay rights legislation as a state representative, Flynn says he has changed his mind and now supports legally-enforced non-discrimination based on sexual preference.

Although Mel King lost the endorsement of the Boston Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance to former city councillor Larry DiCara, King's campaign has enjoyed strong support from lesbians and gay men. King has received an enthusiastic endorsement from the Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus, and the new polls placing him on a par with Finnegan and Flynn have belied the notion that he is "unelectable."

BL/GPA endorsee Larry DiCara still lags far behind in the polls; an endorsement from former MBTA Chair Robert Kiley, who dropped out of the race on September 21, probably won't significantly alter DiCara's standing.

The four contenders for District 8 city councillor gathered for one last candidates' forum on September 27 to answer questions on several recurring themes of the campaign. The event, sponsored by the

Boston *TAB*, allowed a panel of four journalists to quiz the candidates; a few audience questions were permitted at the end.

Former city environment department director Eugenie Beal, the only woman in the race, noted the gross underrepresentation of women in legislative bodies on the city, state and federal levels. Yet Beal displayed a reluctance to characterize the reasons for the disparity. "Do you feel that women are oppressed in the city of Boston and that it is a sexist government?" asked Judy Jarvis of television's Channel 56. "I'm not sure that I do," replied Beal.

A testy Dennis Quilty reacted angrily to a question posed by South End *News* reporter E. Jane Smith. Smith alluded to rumors of "backroom politics" involving Quilty and asked the former Suffolk County Assistant District Attorney how such practices might affect his performance as a city councillor.

"I'm shocked," exclaimed Quilty. "First of all, I don't know what the hell you are talking about and I wish you would enlighten me."

Smith mentioned a controversy in the campaign involving the identification in Quilty campaign literature of Tim McFeeley as a co-coordinator of Governor Michael Dukakis' Ward Five field organization. Maggie Robinson, a worker in the campaign of Quilty opponent Mark Roosevelt, has said she was Dukakis' Ward Five coordinator. Quilty answered Smith by standing by the claim in his literature.

Mark Roosevelt, responding to a question from Smith, called for better police protection through more efficient use of existing officers. "I believe there are too many police officers doing clerical work at police headquarters," he said, and claimed that up to 75 of those officers could be reassigned to the streets.

"There is no substitute for foot patrols," Roosevelt noted. "In a sense, if you call 911, it's too late."

Responding to a question from

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Black Gays, Clinic Host D.C. AIDS Forum

By Urvashi Vaid

WASHINGTON — Over 40 people met at the Clubhouse, a local black and Third World gay club, on Sept. 28 in what was probably the first AIDS forum for black and Third World gays. Co-sponsored by the D.C. Coalition of Black Gays (DCCBG) and Washington's Whitman-Walker clinic, the forum sought to both inform and involve people of color in the fight against AIDS and drew a crowd that was mostly black and male.

Figures from U.S. Public Health Service reports indicate that more than 40 percent of all AIDS patients are people of color. Black people constitute a disproportionate 26 percent of all persons with AIDS. Citing this unusually high incidence of AIDS, forum moderator Gil Gerald, executive director of the National Coalition of Black Gays (NCBG), and president of the DCCBG, observed that "this forum is the result of caring and a sign of involvement of a maturing community."

D.C. Commissioner of Public Health Dr. Ernest Hardaway, welcomed the audience with praise for the gay community's "hard work and dedication," and criticism of the Washington *Post's* coverage of the efforts of community groups like the six-month-old D.C. AIDS Task Force. "They seem much more interested in what color walls I have at the office," Hardaway told the crowd.

Four panelists addressed dif-

ferent aspects of the health crisis and a question and answer period followed.

Dr. Vinod R. Mody, professor of medicine and chief of the infectious disease division at Howard University Hospital, addressed the medical aspects of AIDS, from symptoms to current research into its causes. Dr. Mody observed that the disease manifests itself no differently in black or minority people than in whites, but noted that Kaposi's lesions are especially difficult to detect on black skin.

Dr. Richard B. DiGioia, co-chair of the D.C. AIDS Task Force, discussed the ways to reduce the risk of contracting AIDS. Preventive measures he suggested — lowering the number of sexual partners to two or three a month, not having passive anal sex, proper diet, rest and exercise, avoiding ingestion of stool and urine — drew visible responses from the crowd. Lesbians raised eyebrows when confronted by their unfamiliarity with the language of gay male sexuality and men shook their heads at Dr. DiGioia's comment, "At this point we have to balance sexual enjoyment against death."

The most moving speaker on the panel, Mike Ferrell, spoke on behalf of his lover of six years, Tony Ferrera, who was diagnosed with AIDS last March and is currently receiving treatment at the National Institutes of Health.

"At that time, the center of my universe disintegrated," Ferrell

said. "You cannot imagine a never-ending nightmare. Seven months later I am still as fresh as coping with that shock as I was the very next day."

Ferrell shared very openly the day-to-day anguish he and his lover have faced. He voiced anger at the guilt many gay AIDS patients feel and stressed that none of them have done anything "wrong" by getting the disease. Criticizing the "complex about having AIDS and being gay that has been foisted upon us," Ferrell emphasized that AIDS is something that could strike anyone. He noted that his lover was very healthy, was a runner and a health-food nut and did not use drugs, but nevertheless contracted AIDS.

Ferrell urged members of the audience to get involved actively in helping AIDS patients by forming a community-based mechanism of support. "There are people out there who want to help. There are people who need help. The challenge is to couple them up," Ferrell said.

Ferrell suggested more than financial contributions and suggested concrete tasks: helping do laundry; offering rides; putting up family members so they can visit without paying high hotel costs; helping a person receiving treatment in a hospital by being there. "There is courage. There is hope. There is always hope," Ferrell said.

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Community Voices

suburbanites and mel

Dear GCN,

The following is a letter I sent to Mel King. I would like to suggest that other lesbians and gays in the suburbs support King.

Dear Mel King:

My sincerest thanks to you for running to be Mayor of Boston. Your voice articulates the concerns many people of different races, economic status, age, gender, sexual preference, and abilities. Your very candidacy has forced thousands of us in Boston and in the suburbs to re-examine some of the tired and defeatist ways that we have been looking at politics.

Although I do not live in Boston, I know that the Mayor of Boston runs a city that for many of us is tremendously important as a resource. For this reason, I want to make a contribution to your campaign.

As a lesbian living in the suburbs I am frankly

appalled that some vocal leaders of the gay and lesbian community in the city have chosen not to support you. You have been the most consistent political voice in Boston supporting gays and lesbians over the years.

In February of 1982, when you spoke in Beverly during Political Awareness Week for the North Shore Gay and Lesbian Alliance, you drew one of our largest crowds ever to hear a politician. What you demonstrated in your talk was a keen political mind that carefully took into account the significance of the people.

You are respected and admired by gays and lesbians in the suburbs; I hope the gay and lesbian community in Boston wakes up before it is too late and gets out to vote for you.

My thanks to you for the optimism you have once again inspired in the political system.

Sincerely,
Patricia A. Gozemba
Salem, MA

AIDS Resource List

AIDS Action Committee — 16 Haviland Street, Boston, MA 02115, 267-7573

Education and support group for people with AIDS, their families, lovers, friends and health care providers. Provides speakers, conducts forums, rap groups, hospice-trained volunteers, hotline information and referrals. Associated with the Fenway Community Health Center.

AIDS Action Line — 536-7733
AIDS Action Committee service, information, referrals and befriending about AIDS. Trained volunteers.

AIDS Benefit Review Committee — (267-7573) or (725-4849)
Joint subcommittee of Mayor's Committee on AIDS and AIDS Action Committee to coordinate AIDS fundraisers, monitor process and review results. All groups of individuals planning AIDS fundraisers are encouraged to coordinate their efforts with the subcommittee.

Gay and Lesbian Hotline — 6:00 pm to midnight, M-F (426-9371)

Provides information on AIDS, makes referrals. Associated

with Gay and Lesbian Counseling Services.

Haitian Committee on AIDS in Massachusetts — 117 Harvard Street, Dorchester, MA 02124 (436-2808)

Provides information, referrals, support and emergency assistance to Haitians with AIDS and their families.

Mayor's Committee on AIDS — Room 608, Boston City Hall, Boston, MA 02201 (725-4849)

Coordinates efforts of federal, state, and city health agencies, produces educational material, collects data on cases, reviews policy. Umbrella organization. Media outlet. Conducts forums and provides speakers.

National Gay Task Force Hotline — (1-800-221-7044)

Toll free national hotline run by NGTF to provide information and referrals.

Springfield Downtown Ministry /Council of Churches — 293 Bridge Street Room 205, Springfield, MA 01103-1402 (737-4125)

Counseling and referrals.

“ass”

Dear Friends at GCN,

I am a long-time subscriber and supporter so I feel comfortable offering criticism as well.

In the Sept 10 Classifieds, near the bottom of column 2, appears a GCN ad with the bold-face heading, “Help Us Cover Our Ass.” Please stop a moment and think about that phrase — it is grossly homophobic in its meaning and its origins. To “cover your ass” means to protect yourself from attack, danger — violation! It expresses the fears of heterosexist, anti-gay men for whom anal penetration represents an ultimate form of degradation, embarrassment, loss of autonomy, etc. Well, to be obvious about it, for many gay males anal penetration represents *love making*. A gay newspaper is no place for language which implies that such activity has negative connotations.

By the way, I am told (no solid verification) that in Egypt of the Pharaohs, prisoners taken in battle were butt-fucked to signify their domination and enslavement.

I hope you discuss this matter at a collective meeting and rectify (uh-oh) your practice.

Sincerely,
name withheld
Seattle, WA

‘homosexuals can’t be raped’

Dear GCN,

I can remember lying naked on a bare concrete floor, no bedding, water or clothes, and it was cold. I remember the cold so well. It was in February 1980 and I'd been beaten by guards and called a “little fag” and thrown into a strip cell and left there for days, cold. I cried. I only wanted a blanket, and all I got was spit in my face.

I am one of society's forgotten misfits, thrown into one of the largest successful businesses in America, the Prison System. I am not by any standards a writer but I very much want to express how I feel.

As I understand it, when criminals are sent to prison, *that's* the punishment, we're not sent there to be abused. But we are, daily. I was 19 when I arrived in the Federal Bureau of Prison system. As happens to many young men, I was raped. But what was really the rape was a guard who allowed it to happen and when I asked for help told me it wasn't possible for a homosexual to be raped. I was then classified as what the Bureau calls a “management problem and transferred. Since that incident I've been transferred six times.

They will do anything to keep someone quiet. One method, as prisoners call it, is the “merry go round”, where they put you on a Federal Prison bus and you tour all the jails and prisons in the U.S. as they try to keep you from making contact with the courts (when filing suits against them), or the media or your family and friends. Sometimes you get “lost” in transit and can be very hard for anyone to find for awhile.

If they don't break your spirit the first time, they'll do it again. And if you refuse to get on the bus, they'll take a hypodermic needle and hit you with 100mg of thorazine. Then you won't even realize what's going on until it's too late.

All along I've closed myself off to people and feeling. I've tried to reach out to certain ones now and then but no one was ever there. While at Ray Brook, NY, I met a Cuban refugee and we became close. At first it could have been a merely sex relationship, but as it turned out one night we were talking about his family in Cuba who he would never see again and he was saying how much he loved his mother and he stopped in mid-sentence and turned to me and as I sat there he began to shake and he grabbed me and hugged me and began to cry as I've never seen a man cry in my life. We both cried. I hadn't in many years. I am 24 and for the first time I felt love for someone. As soon as the Feds discovered our friendship they separated us and sent me to another prison. I miss him so much and they won't let us write to each other, but he and my mom write each other so we're able to know each other is well and contact has not been completely lost.

I only hope I'll see the day when the American people stop preparing for and fighting wars long enough to see their folly and realize that everyone should be fighting to survive, to keep everyone warm and fed, or better yet, to make it possible for everyone to keep themselves warm and fed!

James Sipes
39790-066
Box 1000
Otisville NY 10963

DOUBLE SPACE YOUR LETTERS!!!

Gay Community News welcomes letters to Community Voices. If at all possible, your letters should be TYPED AND DOUBLE SPACED and kept to three pages (or less!) in length. GCN publishes all the letters it receives, unedited, on a space-available basis, unless they contain personal attacks. Anonymous letters will not be published, but names will be withheld upon request. Address letters to:

Community Voices, Gay Community News, 167 Tremont St., 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02111.

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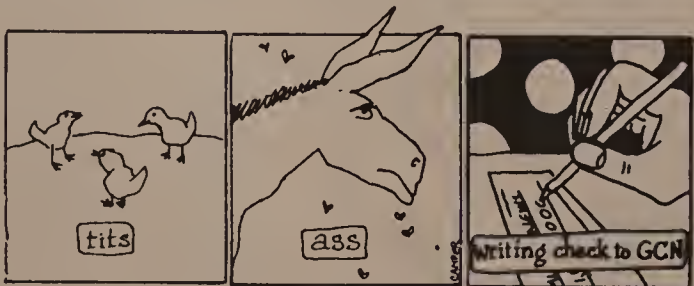
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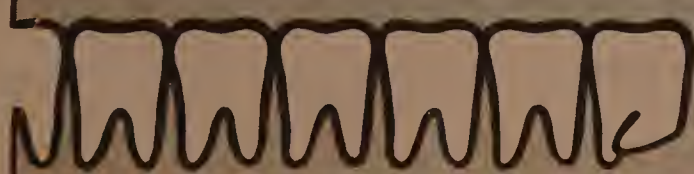
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Rights Campaign

Continued from page 3

cently joined by six functionaries from White's political machine. Those appointments have come under criticism as an attempt by the lame-duck mayor to extend his political influence beyond the expiration of his term.

White acknowledged a standing ovation as he accepted the Human Rights Award from the New England Committee of the Human Rights Campaign Fund. "That's like feeding an addict to heroin who's going to have to go cold turkey very shortly," quipped White, who went on to offer his services for the future: "Nobody likes to see an old mayor kicking around town. . . . When you think you need me for a good political fight, to scheme and plot and plan to win, that will bring out the best in me."

Tierney next introduced Vic Basile, executive director of HRCF. Basile said the Fund plans to raise \$1 million for the 1984 political season. Last year, the HRCF raised \$600,000, making it the seventeenth-largest political action committee in the country.

"I think we have to take a moment to think of the political sophistication we have developed," Basile observed. "Our movement has come from the streets and into the Parker House."

Dinner organizer Martha Jones took the rostrum to introduce Judy Goldsmith, president of the National Organization for Women.

"I joined NOW in 1972, and it got me from being a radical SDS hippie into being in some sense a mainstream political worker," said Jones, "and for that I will always be proud."

"It always seemed bizarre to me," said Goldsmith, "that this society had chosen to limit the ways in which we can choose to



Judy Goldsmith (l), president of the National Organization for Women and Boston activist Ann Maguire.

love one another."

Goldsmith focused her talk on the Reagan administration and urged activists not to let divisiveness distract them from important work. "We will not do Ronald Reagan's dirty work for him," she maintained, "and we will be a united effort for human progress."

Tierney presented Goldsmith with the Paul Revere Bowl, an award from Mayor White, who left the dinner shortly after his own speech.

Brian McNaught, the Boston Mayor's Liaison to the Lesbian and Gay Community, introduced the final speaker, U.S. Rep. Gerry Studds (D-Cape Cod).

"You now know something which used to be very private about me and you now know where I work," began Studds, who came out on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives last July 14. "[My district] is the only Congressional district in this state that voted for Richard Nixon over George McGovern. And it was one of only two counties in the state that voted for Richard Nixon over John F. Kennedy. . . . And now

the secret is out: I am a Democrat."

In his humorous and wide-ranging remarks, Studds spoke of everything from the war in Central America to his personal experiences as a gay man.

"An insecure nation is a nation whose president runs around constantly giving the V-sign, saying that we are number one," Studds said. "Who's the insecure individual? The bully, that's who. The bigot, that's who. The conformist, who cannot abide any diversity."

Studds took the opportunity to announce the formation of a Congressional gay caucus. "It's rather small, but let me tell you, it has an awesome potential for growth," he quipped. But, Studds added, "I'm going to go back [to Washington] not to become the gay congressman. I'm going to go back hopefully to be a congressman who happens to be gay." And he praised the agenda of his hosts: "Bless you for calling your political action committee the Human Rights Campaign Fund and not singling out gay and lesbian rights."

City Races

Continued from page 3

Boston *Globe* city hall bureau chief Walter Robinson as to whether his outspoken criticism of other politicians might make it difficult for him to work on the city council, Fenway tenant and anti-arson activist David Scondras enumerated a list of his achievements. "From a practical point of view of getting things done, I have been effective," Scondras said.

In his closing statement, Scondras characterized the race as "more than anything about trust, about who in fact will deliver on the promises they make." As evidence for the trust he has earned through his work in the city, Scondras mentioned his endorsements by a wide variety of organizations and individuals, including the Boston National Organization for Women, the Black Political Task Force, the Boston City Hospital Workers, the Americans for Democratic Action, Boston school committee member Jean McGuire, and Massachusetts State Reps. Tom Gallagher, Doris Bunte, Byron Rushing and John Bus-

inger.

The Boston *Globe*, which endorsed Scondras in a citywide bid in 1981, has chosen not to endorse a candidate in the District 8 council race "because of a strong field of four qualified candidates with no clear choice."

In District 2, an improbable district comprising South Boston, the South End, Bay Village, Chinatown and part of downtown, three candidates are conducting serious campaigns for city council: Jim Kelly, president of the South Boston Information Center and an ardent busing foe; Chris Hayes, a lifelong South End resident and community activist who has sought to appeal to liberals and moderates, including the neighborhood's large gay and minority populations; and Michael Taylor, director of the South Boston House, a settlement house, who is seeking to portray himself as a "moderate" compromise. The Boston *Globe* has endorsed Taylor.

Forum

Continued from page 3

The final panelist, Rev. Rainey Cheeks of the National Spiritual Science Center also talked about how important it is for people to reach out to AIDS patients.

A brief question and answer period followed during which both informational and political questions were raised. One man noted that one of the effects of the negative public attention focused on gay people because of AIDS

has been to drive some people of color back into the closet. The panel seemed at a loss to respond to this concern.

As the crowd filed out, one person summed up the evening, "Well, they don't know what it is, they don't know how you get it, they don't know how to treat it, all they know is you shouldn't have sex."

AN APPEAL TO THE LESBIAN AND GAY COMMUNITY SUPPORT DAVID SCONDRAS

Boston City Council, District 8

DAVID SCONDRAS is the only openly gay candidate this year in Massachusetts. He is one of the few gay candidates nationwide.

DAVID SCONDRAS is more than a gay candidate. He has worked long and hard for the rights of all people. He earned national attention for his exposure of an arson ring in the Fenway. He led successful campaigns for the rights of the elderly, for tenant rights, for genuine community development rather than "urban renewal," against racial and sexual violence, for abortion rights and other feminist issues, and for better housing and health care. He has been endorsed by women's groups including N.O.W., black groups including the Black Political Task Force, tenant groups such as the Massachusetts Tenants Organization, spokespersons for the elderly like Frank Manning, and gay activists like Harry Britt.

DAVID SCONDRAS did not recently discover the gay vote. He championed gay rights when it was not popular. He helped start the Fenway Community Clinic in 1971, which became a model for lesbian and gay health care. He testified for gay rights before the legislature in 1973.

DAVID SCONDRAS is more than a politician. He is a successful neighborhood organizer and gay activist. He never puts winning over basic issues. He does not compromise on human rights. He does not urge us to "act like straights" in order to win acceptance. He marches with the whole lesbian and gay community—as he did in 1982 against the Boston vice squad harassment of gay people—and he celebrates with us our diversity.

DAVID SCONDRAS does know how to work the system! He gained millions of dollars through government grants for tenants and the elderly. Gay men and lesbians pay taxes—at least 10% of total revenue—and David intends to get our fair share of tax money for gay projects of *our* choosing.

LESBIANS AND GAY MEN must support David Scondras *now*. He deserves our enthusiasm and **OUR MONEY!** We deserve David Scondras in the Boston City Council as our directly elected representative. Some people advise us that a gay candidate cannot win, and that we should support straight candidates who claim to back gay rights. They are not only defeatist, they are **WRONG!** David can win. Not one of his opponents has a proven record on gay rights. Not one of them can represent us directly. David can—and will!

TO VOLUNTEER, CALL 236-4434.

WHAT CAN WE DO?

IF YOU LIVE in Boston's District 8, **VOTE!** Many activists are fed up with elections. **DAVID SCONDRAS IS DIFFERENT!** Get out the 50% or more of our community who usually don't vote.

WHAT IF WE LIVE OUTSIDE THE DISTRICT?

VOLUNTEER! One night a week will help! **COME TO 125 JERSEY ST. ELECTION DAY, OCT. 11!** Hundreds of people are needed! **CALL NOW TO SIGN UP!**

GIVE MONEY! David's opponents are well-financed. David is *not*. One opponent has already sent mailings to the entire district three times. One mailing costs about \$7,000. With your help, David can reach the voters.

CONTACT YOUR FRIENDS. Activate the gay grapevine! Get on the phone now, spread the word!

COMING UP SOON:

Oct. 3: Berkeley Cafe. Dinner, \$50 per plate fundraiser with and for David Scondras.

Oct. 6: New Volunteers' Meeting with French Wall, 125 Jersey.

Oct. 11: Preliminary Election Day.

The following people who endorse David Scondras paid for this ad:

Joe Owens, French Wall, Joanna Lancaster, Elsha, Mitzel, Charles Shively, Lisa Orlando, Bill Bliss, Amy Hoffman, Bliss Woodruff, Jill Clark, Richard Landoli, Bill Hurst, Michael Riegle, Bob Krebs, Robert Dargon, Jose de Jesus, Lester Stockman, Richard Burns, David Wilde, John Levin, Sean Herlihy, John Kyper, Serge Lmontas, Terri Goldberg, Jeremy Grainger, Bryan Quimby, Tom Reeves, Michael Thompson, Sally Kaufman, Cindy Rizzo, Rev. Bob Wheatly, Rev. Ed. Hougén, Margaret Hougén.

Authorized by the Committee to Elect David Scondras, 34 Edgerly Road, Boston, MA 02115, Galen Gilbert, Treasurer.

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Two current major polls—conducted
and released by the Boston Globe
and Channel 5—place him a solid
second and hot on the heels of first.

- It was Mel who sponsored legislation during his ten years as a state representative to ensure fair housing and employment for lesbians and gay men.
- It was Mel who sponsored the first successful legislation in the nation requiring the state pension fund to divest its interests in South Africa, in a move against apartheid.
- It was Mel who joined us as a speaker at our rally in 1979 when we spoke out against Anita Bryant and the homophobia she symbolized.
- It was Mel who walked through the Fenway with us in 1981 to protest the murders of our brothers and the deaths of our friends.

As the next mayor of Boston, Mel King will continue
to work to eliminate discrimination against lesbians
and gay men and enrich the lives of all Boston
residents through the diverse contributions of lesbian
and gay male members of its community.

MEL KING WILL WIN!

For Lesbians and Gay Men, Mel King's victory is vitally important.

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'Incremental Politics': The National Association of Gay and Lesbian



US Senator Alan Cranston (right) with Tom Chorlton at the founding conference.

By Warren Blumenfeld

"A decade ago, a national politician siding with the gay-rights lobby, or what there was of one back then, would have been risking political suicide. Today it can be a political death wish not to be for gay rights."

— Colman McCarthy, political reporter for the Washington Post.

Is there a growing gay and lesbian vote out there as is said to exist for various other minority groups? Some political activists believe there is.

Eric Rofes, chairperson of the Boston Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance says, "There is an understanding on the part of many gay people that they will no longer vote for candidates who don't support their community. There are also a lot of voters who are interested in seeing gay political clout targeting specific candidates and will help them."

This opinion is echoed by Leslie Phillips, spokesperson for the newly formed Cambridge Lesbian and Gay Alliance and treasurer of the National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs. "There is definitely a lesbian and gay vote. The results in race after race across the country where the strength of lesbian/gay votes could be assessed have shown that they have come out for their candidates." Phillips attributes this in large part to the work and influence of the growing number of lesbian and gay Democratic and non- or bipartisan political clubs springing up nationwide and more recently, to the lobbying efforts of the National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs.

Background of a Movement

The lesbian and gay partisan political movement in this country flourished and expanded during the mid to late 1970s, during the so-called "Anita Bryant Era." Many felt that the political victories needed to counter the anti-gay forces required the gathering of votes and money and groups began to form largely for that purpose.

The movement had a deep and rich reservoir to tap. There were many who had experience in straight political organizations while others gained from some of the early nonpartisan gay and lesbian groups like the civil libertarian Mattachine Society and Daughters of Bilitis dating back to the 1950s and the Society for Individual Rights in the early 1960s. Some came with the training they had gained during the late '60s and early '70s in the Gay Liberation Front. Members of these groups carried the flame of direct action sparked by the Stonewall Riots of June, 1969. There were also those who came out of the Gay Activist Alliance approach to political organizing in the '70s, which very often was nonpartisan, concentrating on political education and attempting to work in politics in a broad way. For some, the next step was to enter into the gay and lesbian partisan political arena.

Today there exist at least 40 gay and lesbian Democratic clubs and well over 100 other groups which engage in partisan political organizing though not specifically using the word "Democratic" in their names. There is also an organization which focuses on a gay and lesbian rights political agenda on a national level.

The National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs

Recently I talked with Tom Chorlton, executive director of the National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs (NAGLDC).

Founded in June 1982, the purpose of this organization, simply put, is to help make the gay and lesbian community a permanent part of the American electoral political process. It intends to do this by lobbying the Democratic National Committee (DNC) and presidential candidates; by working on the delegate selection process and by providing a framework for a lesbian and gay caucus of delegates at national Democratic Party conventions and conferences; by recruiting and lobbying for the appointment of qualified lesbians and gay men to the committees, commissions and task forces of the national Democratic Party; by issuing periodic reports and ratings on candidates for presidential nomination; by working with other progressive groups; by developing a working relationship with the Democratic Congressional and the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committees; and by supporting the efforts of the National Gay Rights Lobby, which deals with the United States Congress. It also intends to serve as a clearinghouse for local gay and lesbian political groups by helping to build networks between them; by providing them with resources and information for effective voter registration drives; and helping in the establishment of new local groups.

NAGLDC leaders are fully cognizant of the fact that there is enormous diversity among those local organizations; no matter how much we talk about a gay and lesbian vote, it must be emphasized that it is by no means a unified one at this point. This can be demonstrated by looking at local lesbian and gay Democratic clubs around the country.

In Washington, D.C., for example, a few blacks and women who were members of the Gertrude Stein Gay Democratic Club split off and formed the Langston Hughes/Eleanor Roosevelt Gay Democratic Club because, in the words of Melvin Boozer, one of the new group's founders, "It [the Gertrude Stein Gay Democratic Club] protects the interests of the white gay male community. But if you aren't white, gay, middle-class and male then the Gertrude Stein Club has very little to offer."

In San Francisco, there exist three separate gay Democratic clubs not because there are too many members for one group to absorb, but because each club has a different political philosophy. Eric Rofes

notes that "the progressives join the Stonewall Club, the liberals join the Harvey Milk Club, the moderates join the Alice B. Toklas Club and then they don't really talk to each other. People work in their own little cadres and endorse their own candidates."

Chorlton says that his organization will do what it can to encourage communication between the local groups and will "try to link them together to maximize their impact." During the 1982 elections, Chorlton traveled to the local clubs in 36 states gathering information about the major concerns of each group. He also helped to pull together election information to help with local organizing efforts.

NAGLDC is the offspring of a group which preceded it by about two years. Its parent, Gay Vote 1980, came into being with the goal of pushing for a gay and lesbian rights agenda during the national presidential conventions of 1980. Though having very little influence at the Republican Party Convention (helping to elect only two openly gay delegates, both of whom were committed to John Anderson), they fared much better at the Democratic Party Convention held in New York City. They were instrumental in the election of the 77 gay and lesbian delegates, alternates and permanent committee people and also helped to establish the gay and lesbian caucus at the convention. As a point of reference, this caucus was larger than the delegations from 25 of the states.

Also, for the first time a gay rights plank was added in the 1980 Democratic Presidential Platform and was written into the Charter and By-Laws governing the National Democratic Party. According to Chorlton, this was accomplished through "intensive negotiations with the Carter White House and with lots of help from the Kennedy people."

In the Platform, the equal protection clause focused on ending discrimination, especially in the area of immigration. The language read: "We must affirm the dignity of all people and the right of each individual to have equal access to and participation in the institutions and services of our society. All groups must be protected from discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, language, age, sex or sexual orientation. This includes specifically the right of foreign citizens to enter this country. Appropriate legislation and administrative actions to achieve these goals should be undertaken." And in Articles One and Ten of the Charter and By-Laws, discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation (along with other groups) in the "decisions concerning the selection of candidates, the formulation of policy and the conduct of other party affairs... shall be prohibited."

Another act in the category of "precedent" occurred at this convention. The lesbian and gay caucus was able to obtain 400 of the required 330 delegate signatures to nominate a vice presidential candidate for the purpose of gaining time at the podium to put forth a gay and lesbian rights position in front of millions watching on TV. Chorlton said that this was a purely symbolic action.

The person they chose was Melvin Boozer, a 35-year-old black gay activist who was at that time president of the Gay Activists Alliance and alternate delegate from Washington, D.C. After his address he declined the nomination and returned to the convention floor.

I talked with Boozer about his half hour in front of

Leslie Phillips: "There is definitely a lesbian and gay vote. The results in race after race across the country, where the strength of lesbian/gay votes could be assessed, have shown that they have come out for their candidates."

the delegates of the 1980 convention. He said that though he felt a woman would have been preferable for the nomination, his nomination was essentially a pragmatic one. Says Boozer, "I was nominated to break the stereotype — that when you are talking about gays, you are only talking about white males. It [the nomination] had nothing to do with me as a personality at all."

This was not the first convention which was addressed by a lesbian or gay man on the issue of gay rights. It was at the 1972 Democratic Party Convention held in Miami when Jim Foster, then chairperson of the Society for Individual Rights and founder

GayCommunity News

THE WEEKLY FOR LESBIANS AND GAY MALES

Notes

Compiled by Michael Bronski
and Jeremy Grainger.

Lesbian Psychologies.

The Boston Chapter of the **Association for Women in Psychology** is planning a three-day conference on **Lesbian Psychologies** to be held in Boston March 9 to 11. The purpose of the conference is to begin to identify and develop concepts and theory relevant to psychological understanding of lesbians. It will feature panels on lesbian identity, relationships and community as well as workshops and training sessions on lesbian issues. The planners are particularly committed to representing the diversity of lesbians across ethnic, class, racial, religious and age groupings. They welcome proposals for workshops, panels, etc. Deadline: November 15th.

For proposal information and guidelines, write Boston A.W.P., P.O. Box 1267, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130.

Mental Health Board

The **Harbor Area Mental Health and Retardation Board**, serving Beacon Hill, West End, North End, Charlestown, East Boston, Chelsea, Revere and Winthrop is seeking potential board members to represent and work on a range of important mental health and retardation issues. Lesbians and gay men are encouraged to apply.

Interested applicants should call (617) 727-7115.

MIT Books Brooks

Gwendolyn Brooks, Pulitzer Prize winning poet, will present a reading/lecture as the first, in the 1983-84 MIT series **Women, Writing and Society**.

The reading, which is free and open to the public, will be on October 19 at 8:00 PM at the MIT Student Center, 77 Mass Ave. Call (617) 253-7897 for more information.

New York, New York

New York has a new gay male theater group, **Camerados**. Founded by Nicholas Deutsch, Camerados, in association with Meridian Gay Theater will present as its inaugural production **Smiling Travelers, Gorgeous Lies**, a theater piece by Frank Hoffman which ranges from lyrical love poems to satirical monologues. Performances of *Smiling Travelers, Gorgeous Lies* run October 7 through 30: Friday at 11:00 PM; Saturday at midnight and Sunday at 3:00 PM. At the Shandol Theater, 137 West 22nd Street. Ticket price is \$5.00 or TDF. Information and reservations may be placed by phone at (212)869-3981.

Ralph Fredrick's play **Snapshots**, which enjoyed a successful 1980 run in Boston and a glowing *GCN* review, will begin previews on October 7 at Intra, 420 West 42nd Street. *Snapshots* is the story of six women who work together in a photo lab and of the last Christmas Eve party they all spend together. Performances will be Wednesday through Friday, at 8:00, Saturdays at 7:00 and 10:00 PM, and Sundays at 3:00 and 7:00 PM. Tickets will be priced at \$12.50 and \$15.00. Reservations: (212) 279-4200.

Two More Groups

Daughters of Bilitis, Boston's oldest lesbian rights organization, announces two new discussion groups beginning this fall.

A **Coming-out rap**, open to all women, meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 8:00 PM. The other group, for **young women 22 and under** meets on the fourth Thursday of every month at 8:00 PM starting Oct. 27. Topics for each group appear in *GCN* and local papers.

All raps are free and are held at the DOB office, 1151 Mass Ave. in the basement of Old Cambridge Baptist Church. Call (617) 661-3633 for a taped informational message.

Calendar
Pull
Out

Down East News

Maine now has a monthly newspaper for lesbians and gay men. **Our Paper** published its first issue this month. An eight-page tabloid, the issue features an article on AIDS in Maine, a story about a Portland lesbian's challenge to her dismissal from Army ROTC, a legislative update and other articles, along with a calendar and a statewide resource list.

"*Our Paper* is Your Paper," as the masthead says, and it is looking for help, writers, and of course, subscribers. Subscriptions are \$10 for 12 issues. *Our Paper's* address is P.O. Box 10744, Portland, ME 04104.

Gay Poetry: Take Two

Last year's highly successful gay **Open Lines** poetry readings, organized by Carl Morse, will take place again this fall. Four Sunday afternoon poetry readings by lesbians, gay men and pro-feminists will be presented at the Washington Square Church, 135 West 4th Street, New York.

The work presented will cover the whole spectrum of gay writing from the spiritual to the highly (according to some) politically incorrect: something for everyone. The four programs now set are: October 9th, Jewelle Gomez, Larry Mitchell, Marilyn Hacker. October 16h, Stephanie Byrd, Ron Schreiber, Dorothy Allison. October 23, Tommi Avicolti, Elva Perez-Trevino, Michael Rumaker. October 30, Judy Grahn, Charley Shively. All readings will be at 5:00 PM. For more information call the Washington Square Church (212) 777-2528.

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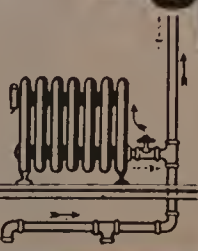
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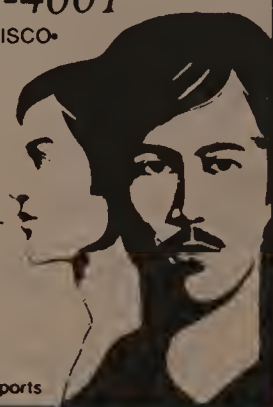


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Democratic Clubs

of the Alice B. Toklas Gay Democratic Club of San Francisco (the first gay Democratic club in this country back in 1971) first presented a gay rights agenda.

In his book, *The Mayor of Castro Street: The Life and Times of Harvey Milk*, Randy Shilts gives a portion of Foster's speech: "We do not come to you pleading your understanding or begging your tolerance. We come to you affirming our pride in our lifestyle, affirming the validity to seek and maintain meaningful emotional relationships and affirming our right to participate in the life of this country on an equal basis with every citizen."

Shilts writes, "In even, forceful sentences, Foster ticked off the encyclopedia of injustices against gays. He condemned the brutal and ruthless purges of gays in the armed forces. [Foster himself received a dishonorable discharge on account of being gay.] He noted the \$12 million which the Civil Service Commission spent each year investigating suspected homosexual employees. According to government regulations, a homosexual was not permitted to push a broom down the halls of the Smithsonian Institute or hang pictures in the National Gallery. . . ."

Foster concluded his address with these words: "These are not conservative or radical issues, these are human issues. Regardless of whether this convention passes this plank or not, there are millions of gay brothers and sisters who will say to the Democratic Party, 'We are here. We will not be still. We will not go away until the ultimate goal of gay liberation is realized, the goal that all people live in peace, freedom, and dignity of who we are.'"

One of the leading forces which helped Foster gain a position at the '72 Convention was George McGovern, who was the party's choice that year to run for president. Gays were instrumental in helping to secure McGovern's strong showing nationwide in primary elections. Shilts notes that in San Francisco, gays collected over one-third of the northern California signatures needed to place his name first on that state's primary ballot. The technique was a simple one: gay political activists went into the bars and registered everyone to vote, then had them sign a McGovern petition to have his name placed on the ballot. Gays also proved to be effective fundraisers to help fill the McGovern war chests.

Even with McGovern's support, however, gay rights was not included into the 1972 Democratic Party Presidential Platform. Rumors abounded that

Jim Foster: "We are here. We will not be still. We will not go away until the ultimate goal of gay liberation is realized, the goal that all people live in the peace, freedom, and dignity of who we are."

backers of Hubert Humphrey attempted to delay Foster's speech and were against the proposed plank.

At the 1976 Democratic Presidential Convention, some ground was lost. No speaker was given permission to address the delegates on the issue of gay and lesbian rights, though there were three open gay and lesbian delegates in attendance that year. According to Chorlton, "Jean O'Leary and Bruce Voeller tried to generate something, but Eisenstadt, Director of Issues for the Carter campaign, put thumbs down to all their efforts."

With this historical perspective behind, Chorlton makes a convincing argument for the success of Gay Vote 1980 in influencing Democratic Party policy at the 1980 Presidential Convention. Largely due to its efforts, every state delegate selection plan for the 1984 Democratic Convention must include a non-discrimination clause covering sexual preference and if there are states which don't include such protection, one must be added. Chorlton now feels that "the weight of the Democratic party is behind us instead of against us."

I asked Chorlton if he wasn't being overly optimistic about the real impact a change in language in the Democratic National Platform and Charter would make in the everyday lives of lesbians and gay men. He considered this and said, "The fact is that major political parties have a hell of an influence on setting agendas, on moving political office holders and on pushing agendas forward. A lot of people complain that the Democratic platform doesn't mean anything, that nobody pays attention to it and it is dismissed. But the reality is that the platform is usually the avant-garde of party thinking which ultimately

evolves into legislation. It was not by accident that the 1948 Democratic [Presidential] Convention fought tooth and nail over the platform when it included black civil rights and the fact that that battle was won by people like Hubert Humphrey who were clearly a step forward in coming closer to black civil rights legislation. And that's very much as we see gay rights in terms of the party's pronouncements and statements." Chorlton emphasizes that NAGLDC is "an independent entity — not created by the Party, receives no funding from the Party, not answerable to the Party."

With its goals achieved, Gay Vote 1980 died out shortly after the 1980 elections. However, many of the people formerly working in that group felt that a permanent entity was needed to keep the pressure going on the Democratic Party. Many of the leaders from the 1980 effort came together from time to time

Tom Chorlton: "A lot of people complain that the Democratic platform doesn't mean anything, that nobody pays attention to it and it is dismissed. But the reality is that the platform is usually the avant-garde of party thinking which ultimately evolves into legislation."

over the next year to debate and design the type of organization they wanted. This work culminated in June 1982 in Philadelphia with the Founding Conference of the NAGLDC. Those in attendance were the heads of gay and lesbian Democratic clubs and political organizations from throughout the United States, and gay and lesbian delegates and alternates from the 1980 National Democratic Presidential Convention and from the 1982 Democratic Mid-term Conference. This NAGLDC Founding Conference was planned to coincide with the Democratic Mid-term Conference, which was also meeting at this time in Philadelphia because, according to Chorlton, "We wanted our conference to be a partisan effort to maximize the gains we made in 1980."

Asked why it was decided to focus on the Democratic Party, Chorlton said, "Historically, you can see without a question that in the 20th century it has been the Democratic Party which has clearly been the major political group that has best represented our interests and best represented the things that we believe in terms of social and economic justice."

At the Founding Conference, workshops were held to develop strategies, guidelines and by-laws for the new organization. It was agreed that its governing body, the Executive Board, would consist of one executive director, who is the only paid member; two co-chairpersons, one man and one woman, who are charged with the major responsibilities in the general management of the affairs of the association; six regional vice chairpersons, who help to coordinate and form new member groups in the six regions; one secretary; one treasurer; and four members-at-large. Written into the rules is the provision for "affirmative action and gender parity" among members serving on the Board.

NAGLDC treasurer Leslie Phillips said that their major source of funding is through contributions from individuals and member organizations. The Association is by no means financially solvent at this point. The executive director has not been paid in a while and all traveling expenses must come out of the pockets of the members of the Board. Phillips says that a dues fee from the member organizations, consisting of \$1 per member of each group, has been proposed.

Financial constraints, however, do not seem to have impeded the work they have set out to do. From the first day of their Founding Conference, they have been lobbying the Democratic Party and the major presidential hopefuls of the Party.

Charles Manatt, Chairperson of the Democratic National Committee, whom Chorlton terms "the head of the party," addressed the delegates to the NAGLDC Founding Conference. According to Chorlton, "Manatt pledged to us at our Founding Conference full cooperation and support, which means that he has instructed all the people of the Democratic National Committee to be responsive to our requests, to deal with us, to provide whatever information and whatever help is appropriate."



Charles Manatt (left) with William Olwell, a founding member of the Association, at the founding conference.

Senator and presidential hopeful Alan Cranston also spoke to the delegates and pledged his support, as did Walter Mondale, who met with delegates on the following day. Chorlton noted that this was the first public meeting Mondale had with gays.

NAGLDC has just released a report which rates presidential candidates' past records and current attitudes on gay and lesbian rights. Chorlton contends that all the candidates have been "very positive and impressive." He continues, "We have been staying on the tails of all the major national candidates since early last September. Before most of the candidates even opened up their offices, we were sitting on their door steps. Long before anyone officially announced their candidacy, we had already met with key people on their staffs."

In Chorlton's opinion, Cranston has been the most supportive and ex-Florida Governor Rubin Askew has been the least, especially in his past support for Anita Bryant. However, Chorlton notes that Askew "has stated publicly that he has rethought the issue and moved away from his negative position — that he now sees it as a question of social justice, but he still has concerns about gay teachers."

Chorlton emphasizes, "What's really important is at the moment there are no homophobes running for president on the Democratic ticket."

I checked this theory out with Randy Shilts, who has been doing research for a series of articles on gay power in presidential politics for the San Francisco *Chronicle*. He told me that he was motivated to undertake this series after looking over some of the reports coming out of NAGLDC regarding candidates' stands. Shilts is definitely not as up-beat in his assessment of where presidential candidates stand on the issues of lesbian and gay rights. "In 1972 McGovern had a wonderful gay rights plank," says Shilts, "when he was running for the nomination and then when he got nominated, said that he never really said it. Then in '76 you have Carter, who gazed back after he got the nomination and who did absolutely nothing [while in office] and who only came out for gay rights when he was up for reelection. I think it's doubtful whether he would have done anything [if

Randy Shilts: "What annoys me is how naive these gay politicians are when they will take a statement and say, 'Gee, look at all the progress we've made.' When people are running for the nomination, they will say anything to get a vote and then once nominated they'll distance themselves and once elected they'll distance themselves more."

reelected]."

Responding to Mondale's support for gay rights, Shilts said, "Mondale gave a speech to a group in New York [The Human Rights Campaign Fund] last year and never even used the word 'gay.' As a reporter for the *Chronicle* I was at a fundraiser that Mondale was at four months ago. I tried to get him to say something about AIDS. He chokes on the word 'gay.' Mondale's not going to be worth a hill of beans no matter what he says."

Shilts continues, "What annoys me is how naive these gay politicians are when they will take a statement and say, 'gee, look at all the progress we've made.' When people are running for the nomination, they will say anything to get a vote and then once

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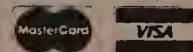
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Larry DiCara with Virginia Apuzzo, Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force, and Brian McNaught, Mayor's Liaison to the Gay and Lesbian Community, at the Human Rights Campaign Fund Dinner.

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Incremental Politics

Continued from page 13

nominated they'll distance themselves and once elected they'll distance themselves more."

An article entitled "The Mondale Way to the Presidency," which appeared in the February 22, 1983 edition of the *Wall Street Journal*, seems to confirm Shilts' suspicions. Regarding his appearance as featured speaker at a dinner of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, Albert Hunt wrote: "The Mondale camp insisted this wasn't a political move but only reflected Mr. Mondale's longtime concern for human rights and equal justice. Privately, though, some Mondale aides were able to cite figures on the growing numbers of homosexuals in the electorate and suggested they might be an important new fundraising constituency."

Nor is Shilts impressed by DNC Chairperson Manatt's supportive statements. Says Shilts, "Manatt is an LA guy and he is going to be more sensitive to gay rights because LA gays are very powerful with political contributions, but that doesn't mean they have someone who will go to the White House and be good."

Responding to a question of whether he felt NAGLDC was making an impact on the DNC, Shilts responded, "I just have to wait and see if we get a

also realizes that there are many gay men and lesbians who have chosen avenues other than of electoral politics to push for social change.

Chorlton reflects: "We don't think for a second that we're the only game in town, but we think that's a damn important place to keep the pressure up. Nothing is automatic and nothing is guaranteed. We're not talking the world of miracles; we're talking the world of incremental politics. Each step we take gives us more ammunition to take the next step."

There are those who are going the electoral route who genuinely feel that NAGLDC is filling an essential role. Both Rofes and Boozer have found the work of NAGLDC to be valuable and useful to their local groups. Although his organization is not officially affiliated with NAGLDC, Rofes, comments, "We have relied on them for some things. We met with Tom Chorlton and with Peter Vogel, who is one of the co-chairs of their board. Our dealings with them have been very good. They've been able to nail candidates on their views on gay issues and have served as a really good clearinghouse for dealing with presidential candidates on the national level." And according to Boozer, "I think they've made a lot of progress in terms of insinuating themselves in the hierarchy of the Democratic Party in terms of its policy-making and its fundraising. To do that, I think they have had to narrow their concerns, but I think they have made inroads."

Jonathan Handel, coordinator of the Cambridge Lesbian and Gay Alliance, gives the efforts of NAGLDC high marks. In April, Handel won election as a delegate to the 1983 Massachusetts Democratic State Convention and said, "Chorlton not only helps on the national level but also helps on the state level. He prepares lists of local gay and lesbian contacts state by state for national presidential campaigns." Handel encourages other gay men and lesbians to enter into the delegate selection process and says that it is not as difficult to be elected as many people may think.

In its support for local groups, NAGLDC sends out frequent mailings. These include updates of the gay rights positions taken by candidates for national, state and local offices; reports on the National Voter Registration Project; reports on the Commission on Presidential Nominations; and statements about the

efforts underway to form a lesbian and gay caucus at the DNC.

Scheduled for the fall and winter are regional conferences organized by the local vice chairs. The conferences are designed to aid them in achieving their stated purpose of helping to form new groups and strengthen existing ones; aid in the networking of information between groups; help in the promotion of voter registration drives; and help in the planning of strategies for the election of delegates to the 1984 Democratic National Presidential Convention in San

Melvin Boozer: "I think they [the National Association] have made a lot of progress in terms of insinuating themselves in the hierarchy of the Democratic Party in terms of its policy-making and its fundraising. To do that, I think they have had to narrow their concerns, but I think they have made inroads."

Francisco.

Chorlton sums up NAGLDC's goals: "We are determined to make certain that our community has everything it needs to be full and effective participants [in the political process]." He acknowledges, however, that although "partisan politics is a critical place to act, it is not the ultimate or total bag." Each of us must decide where we want to plug in.

If you are interested in contacting the National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs, they can be reached at: 1742 Massachusetts Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003. Phone (202) 547-3104.

Tom Chorlton: "We're not talking the world or miracles; we're talking the world of incremental politics. Each step we take gives us more ammunition to take the next step."

Democratic president, but how are they making an impact when there are only about two Senators in the US Senate who support the gay rights bill [Cranston from California and Tsongas from Massachusetts]."

Chorlton says he is sensitive to such criticism and

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To The Lesbian and Gay Community of Boston:

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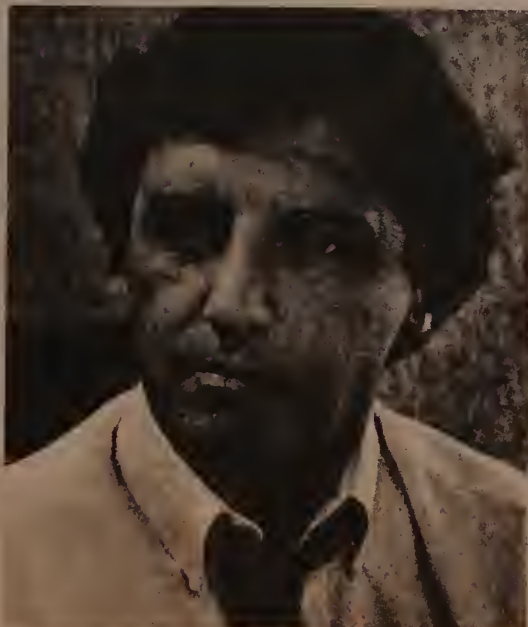
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1. Violence against gays and lesbians will not be tolerated or condoned. My attitude together with the sworn obligation of the police department is the critical ingredient to combating such violence. A liaison will insure open lines of communication between myself and the gay and lesbian community.
2. Health issues related to the gay community affect us all. These issues deserve immediate attention utilizing city resources. A Finnegan Administration will insure such resources will be readily available.
3. As mayor, discrimination in municipal employment and delivery of city services on the basis on sexual preference will be prohibited through the continuance of an executive order. In addition, I will actively support a city ordinance that will prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual preference in the areas of employment, credit, housing, education and the delivery of city services. I would also lend my support to the passage of state and national legislation banning discrimination on the same basis.

An administration which is truly representative of the residents of our city is my goal. This would allow an opportunity for all people to be placed in policy making positions throughout the administration, guaranteeing access and involvement in the affairs of our city. The mayor must provide the moral leadership needed to begin this process. Thus, I, David Finnegan, mayoral candidate for the city of Boston, welcome the support of the gay and lesbian community.

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At a beautiful coastal Maine Institute. Complete office & workshop facilities. Consult staff. Daily, weekend & weekly rates. (207) 529-5292 & 832-7666. (12)

THERAPY GROUPS FOR GAY MEN

Gay & Lesbian Counseling Services is now forming general issues & coming out therapy groups for gay men. For info & appt call GLCS, (617) 542-5188. Sliding fee scale, insurance accepted. (c)

THERAPY GROUP FOR LESBIANS

Gay & Lesbian Counseling Services is now forming a support group for lesbians in close relationships with incest survivors (lovers, friends, family members). For info & appt call GLCS, (617) 542-5188. Sliding fee scale, insurance accepted. (c)

WOMEN MARRIED TO GAY MEN

Weekly support group for women involved with gay/bisexual men to begin Sept 28. Opportunity to gain understanding through mutual support and sharing. Call Maggie for details: Days 744-1225, eves 595-1274. (10)

GAY MEN'S WEEKEND

Weekend workshop in the country to explore and clarify what being gay men means collectively & individually. Call Francis 628-6988.

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Want the best??? Let GCN typeset your resume, flier, brochure, newsletter, magazine. You name it! Reasonable rates. Call 426-4469 and ask for Nancy Wechsler.

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That is what our customers have stated about: YOUR FINEST SCOURER. For uncompromising service in the areas of **cleaning, housekeeping, maintenance, and functions**—YOUR FINEST SCOURER is the prime choice! For an appointment call Mr. Livingston at 292-6360 (8-6 Mon-Fri).

RIDES

MOVING OUT WEST

Looking for woman to share driving & gas. I'm going first to SF then on to Seattle. Want to leave ASAP but desperate for rider. Rebecca (413) 298-3384 eves best. (12)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

LEGAL SECRETARIAL OPENING

for West Suburban Sole-Practitioner, top interpersonal skills & 75 wpm a must. Salary as per experience. For interview call 731-9675 between 6:30 pm & 8:30 pm Mon-Thurs. (12)

CARPENTER'S HELPER

Private contractor looking for help in Boston area, must have experience with hand tool & carpentry skills. 266-2907. (12)

Editor/Writer and Flow Chart Artist. Two full or part-time positions on human information processing/problem solving/reading textbooks for high school & corporate learners. Two month min assignment on coast of Maine. Expenses & salary. Resume to Box O, Waldoboro, Maine 04572 or call (207) 529-5292 & 832-7666. (12)

Salesperson wanted for solid publication w/ following. Commission + base. Days 542-8280. (13)

MANAGER

Independent public radio station. Full-time \$16,000/year. Contact Don Alan, WORT, 118 S. Bedford, Madison, WI 53703. (608) 256-2695 by Oct 21. EOE. (12)

MEDICAL RECORDS SUPVR

Gay oriented medical clinic seeks 25 hr/wk A.R.T. or R.R.A. eligible supervisor w/ experience. Excellent salary & benefits. Send resume to Exec Dir, FCHC, 16 Haviland St, Boston 02115. (13)

TRAVEL

TRAVEL—KEY WEST

Free Brochure & Map Include: Accommodations-Restaurants-Shops-Bars Write: Key West Business Guild P.O. Box 1208 GC Key West, FL 33040 (305) 296-7535 (12-?)



TO ALL THOSE WHO IN AND OUT OF PRISON FIGHT AGAINST THEIR BONDAGE (Alexander Berkman, Prison Memoirs of an Anarchist).



ATTENTION PRISONERS (especially women)

We are looking for short articles (3-4 typewritten pages, if you can get your hands on a typewriter, handwritten neatly if you can't) on your experience with the law enforcement, court and prison business. Also graphics (line drawings, cartoons, etc.)! Don't send anything you expect to get sent back (postage is just too expensive). They can be very 'personal' pieces or political rantings and ravings. Remember you're writing to other gay men and women who have much to learn about how the law really works. Send your stuff to: GCN Prisoner Project, 167 Tremont St., Boston MA 02111. Enjoy!!



GCN GAY AND LESBIAN PRISONER PROJECT

We send free papers, books (when they are donated and when money for postage is donated) and run free penpal ads. (There's sometimes a long waiting list because of limited space.) Little by little as we get more volunteer labor power we'll be looking for other ways to support lesbians and gay men behind bars. If you can help with your time or a contribution (of money or paperbacks), please send to Gay and Lesbian Prisoner Project, c/o GCN, 167 Tremont St., 5th Fl., Boston, MA 02111. Thanks!

I got your name out of No More Cages and would like very much to receive your paper. I'm a lesbian and would also like to have my name added to your penpal list. But I don't want no male writers. Alberta ROSE, 14434-C, 1479 Collins Ave., Marysville OH 43040.

I would like female prisoners or other gay women to write me. I also would like a picture enclosed, but not required. I really need people to write me and would also like to get a copy of your magazine. Thank you, Cheryl WOLFE, 16531, 1479 Collins Ave., Marysville OH 43040.

Locked up and lonesome, looking for correspondence with intelligent ferns. Amanda BURROW, CIW-18307, Miller A/39 U, Frontera CA 91720.

NOTE TO PEOPLE WHO WRITE PRISONERS: If you get no response (rare) from writing one of the prisoners, it may be because he/she has been moved to another prison (and they don't usually forward mail). One of prisons' main ways to destroy attempts by prisoners to defend themselves with lawsuits and to form "unions" and social support networks generally is to keep moving the "troublemakers" (the type that read GCN, for example) from one prison to another. It is also a form of punishment for activism to move them away from where their families and friends live.

Prisoners getting books from GCN might like to send a note of thanks (if you have the extra postage; don't worry about it if you don't) to Fred Welch, P.O. Box 447, Palo Alto, CA 94302. He's been sending us a lot of stamps to send out books with.

Prisoners Seeking Friends

Readers (inside and out): Almost all ads are taken from much longer letters which we cannot print in full in the free space GCN has provided. Even so, there's usually a waiting list of 3 to 6 weeks and ads usually only run once or twice (unless we can't get new ones done because of other work).



HELP! I want to get some moral (letters!) support in this heterosexual hell hole where I am now in the middle of filing three law suits against them and they don't like me at all. I need you to help me show them I am not alone, that they can't always isolate us gays every time they want. Please write just to give me some contact, even if only one letter, and to let them know that I have ties. Thanks. Roger Dale EMANUEL, 977 Camp Road, Salisbury NC 28144.

(Prisoner Project Note: Another prisoner in much the same boat (needing one-shot letters of support either to themselves or to prison officials whose names they can tell you) is Robert D. GRANGER, 75973-012 Unit 1, 3901 Kiern Blvd, Lompoc CA 93436. They both deserve the support and this is a way you can do it without committing yourself to a 'long-term, meaningful relationship'.)

ON 'COMING OUT'

One sure way to make it hard for prisoners coming out of prison to make it on the outside is to keep them from getting jobs and housing. This is just what this society does with its attitudes toward ex-prisoners. Don't be surprised if a penpal asks for some help in finding work or a place to live. Their getting out on parole this year, rather than next, may depend on finding these (or a 'sponsor'), and their staying out will certainly depend on it. The GCN Prisoner Project is always looking for info on jobs and housing resources in all regions of the country.

Start your own prisoner project at a prison near you (the most effective place to be) by getting together and updating this kind of info and making it available to the prisoners who are coming out.

Did you hear about the riot at Homlyn in August. Well I got moved here and would like you to change my subscription address and let Dick in LA and Tim in CO know I'm here so they can write me. We were stripped prior to being transferred and weren't allowed to bring anything — no photos, addresses, letters, nothing. Anyone else who was writing someone at Homlyn can use this address because this is where we were all sent. Thomas (Jay) ANDERSON, 115426, Box 97, McAlester OK 74501.

ATTENTION POETS! WRITERS!

The Blackheart Collective is still looking for pieces for publication in their special black, gay prisoners edition. If you would like to contribute something send it to: Blackheart Collective, Box 1420, New York, NY 10027. Only send them copies, not originals that you might want back.



UNITY! STRENGTH!



Musician in prison needs to talk things over with other guitarists, music teachers, etc. I'm an accomplished folk/blues and soft rocker but need to know more to write down my creations. If you're into doing original material, let's share ideas and notes! P.L. SCHMIDT, [Ed. Note: the guy who does our 'Blue' cartoons in this space!], 28939, 3-A-6, M.E.C.C., 18701 Old Highway 66, Pacific MO 63069.

I love people who are intelligent and love to share thoughts. I am bisexual... I had a lover until November of 82, she was totally a very strong minded person and it really hurt when she/he went home. I would appreciate corresponding with anyone who feels like we could share some thoughts and smiles. Randy JOHNS, 123328 M-1, Reldsville GA 30499.

I come from the West Indies and am speaking 4 languages: english, spanish, french, and creole. I'm a soccer player and a good cook. I'm into penpals any race and specially from gay minded people. Jean LEON, 072574, PO Box 747, Starke FL 32091.

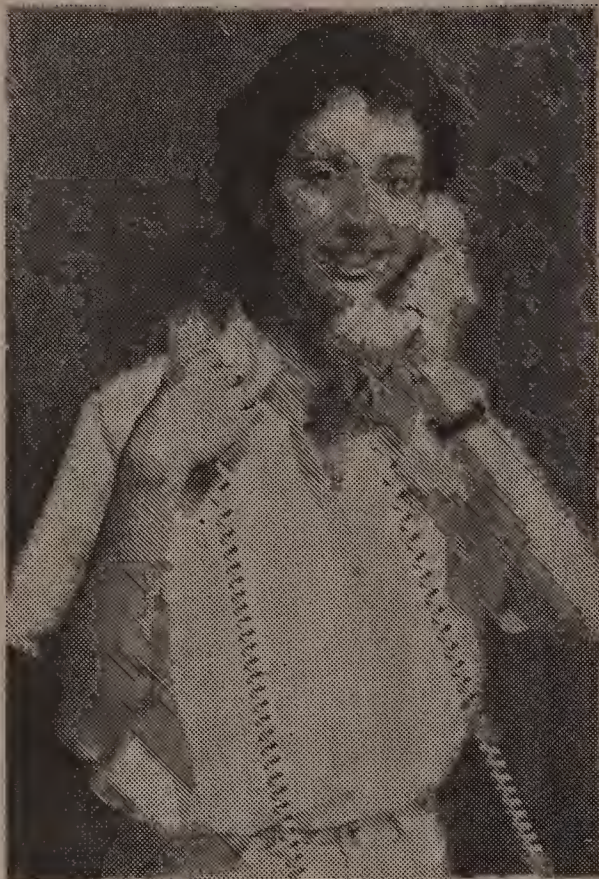
Lonely, indigent and bored prisoner has large desire 4 correspondence. Used to work at Playland in Boston. Please write D. PATMORE, 087316, Box 1500, Cross City, FL 32628.





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